



# Oakwood

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## CHURCH

### March 7 Discussion Questions

### “Your Response is Your Responsibility”

### Acts 13:26-52

#### **Preview**

God **chooses** who will be saved.

- This choice perfectly considers the individual **choices** of every person.

*“As many as were appointed to eternal life believed.”* Acts 13:48

God is **sovereign** and people are **responsible**.

- How both can be true is difficult for our finite minds and calls us to **submit** in **faith** to the God of all wisdom and justice.

*“Oh, the depth of the riches and wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable are his judgments and how inscrutable his ways!”* Romans 11:33

#### **Different Responses:**

- Some **Rejected** Jesus -
  - a. **Resisting** God’s Word (v.27b, 45b)
  - b. **Opposing** Christ(ians) (v.27c-29, 50)
  - c. Seeking honor for **self** (v.27a, 40-41, 45)
- Others **Followed** Jesus -
  - a. **Received** God’s Word (v.42, 44)
  - b. **Moving** toward Christians (v.43-44)
  - c. Giving **honor** to Jesus (v.48-49)

#### **Different Results:**

- Those who reject Jesus experience:

- a. The **absence** of God (v.50-51)
  - b. The absence of **joy** (v.46, 51)
- Those who follow Jesus experience:
    - a. The **presence** of God (v.52)
    - b. The presence of **joy** (v.52)

### **Connect**

1. What is something you did as a kid that resulted in more discipline than usual from your parents?
2. Even if we “get away” with doing something bad, how does it still negatively affect us?

### **Pray & Read Acts 13:26-52**

### **Discuss**

3. Since God is sovereign in election and everyone is responsible for their actions, how are we called to respond? (See Romans 11:33-36)
4. How did the Jews respond to the person and work of Jesus Christ? Why do you think this is?
5. What characterizes a person who rejects Jesus? In what ways is this different from a Christian who has stunted his or her growth in Jesus?
6. According to v.41, how would you define a scoffer? Who proved to be one in this passage? Why?
7. The Jews and their religious leaders had the appearance of godliness, yet their hearts were far from God. How could this happen? What does this communicate about the nature of sin?
8. Read Heb 12:15-16. In what way is sin deceitful? How does it cause our hearts to harden?
9. How do you reconcile the appearance of godliness in many modern day Christian leaders with their significant moral failures?
10. Read 1 Cor 10:12-13 and Heb 10:23-27. How do these passages lead us to respond to our heart’s increasing inclination towards sin?
11. How did the Gentiles respond to their invitation into salvation? What does this teach us about the nature of true followers of Jesus?

### **Apply**

12. How is God calling you to respond to this passage?
13. How does this passage lead you to worship Jesus?
14. What is a safeguard God is calling you to add to your life in order to increase your protection from the deceitfulness of sin?
15. What is a fruit of the Spirit you’d love God to increase in your life?

### **Prayer**

Spend time thanking God for His faithfulness to you. Ask Him to bring healing to your weak areas of faith and to increase the evidence of the fruit of the Spirit in your life.

***Church-Wide Prayer Focus, from the Prayer Team***

**Personal Prayer Focus:** Please pray for opportunities to share God's love with the "Gentiles" in our lives.